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By 
Eric L. Maldonado

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Attorney Docket No. 100794-11749 (FUJR 18,961)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Tetsuaki WAKABAYASHI, et al.
Serial No.: 09/942,314
Filed: August 29, 2001
Title: **SWITCHING APPARATUS, COMMUNICATION APPARATUS...**
Examiner:
Art Unit: 2662

January 10, 2002 **RECEIVED**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

FEB 04 2002
Technology Center 2600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action , no fee is due.

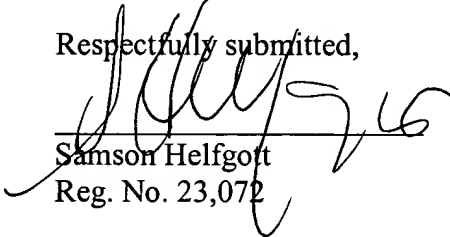
As these documents are written in a language other than English, English Language abstracts are annexed thereto explaining their relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a) and 1.106 (b), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Sheet 1 of 1

Application No. : 09/942,314
Filing Date : AUGUST 29, 2001
First Named Inventor: T. WAKABAYASHI
Group Art Unit : 2662
Examiner Name :
Attorney Docket No. : FUJR 18.961(100794-11749)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		10-233781	JP	HITACHI LTD NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPH CORP<NTT> NEC CORP FUJITSU LTD OKI ELECTRIC IND CO	09/02/1998	
		8-79253	JP	FUJITSU LTD	03/22/1996	
		8-509339	JP	WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY	10/01/1996	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1⁶ if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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